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NEWS RELEASE

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Orange County Judge Josephine S. Tucker Nominated for Federal Judgeship

SAN FRANCISCO – President Obama has nominated Orange County Superior Court Judge Josephine S. Tucker to serve as a district judge on the United States District Court for the Central District of California. The White House announced the nomination February 4.

If confirmed by the Senate, Judge Tucker will fill a judgeship vacant since January 5, 2009, when U.S. District Judge Alicemarie H. Stotler took senior status.

Appointed by Governor Gray Davis in 2002, Judge Tucker, 47, has presided over criminal, family, and civil law matters. She served on temporary assignment with the California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division One, in 2009.

Prior to coming onto the bench, she had been a partner and co-chair of Morrison & Foerster's Labor and Employment Law Department in Irvine, Calif., from 1995 to 2002, and was an associate from 1987 to 1995 in the firm's Irvine and San Francisco offices.

Judge Tucker received her undergraduate degree in 1983 from William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, graduating *summa cum laude*. She received her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1986. Following law school, she clerked for Circuit Judge John R. Gibson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Judge Tucker is a member of the California Judges Association and the Warren J. Ferguson Inn of Court. She was an active member of the Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) Court Security Education Committee, an advisory committee to the Judicial Council of California. Judge Tucker was named Orange County Employment Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2001 by the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association.

The U.S. District Court for the Central District of California had 15,164 case filings in fiscal year 2009. The court, which is authorized 27 permanent judgeships and 1 temporary judgeship, currently has three vacancies.

Federal district court judges, appointed under Article III of the Constitution, are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior. Their current annual salary is \$174,000.

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